

## Message from your Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am very happy to be here at Cooksville Lutheran Church as your interim pastor. I am grateful for the warm welcome I am experiencing. I am impressed with how well-organized and mission-oriented you are as a congregation.

Now that you have a half-time pastoral office, it will be an adjustment to figure out what can be done in 25 hours a week and what will need to be picked up by others or left undone. I invite your feedback and suggestions as I work together with the council and church leaders on this. My main goals right now are to get acquainted with you, worship with you, visit those who are ill or unable to attend worship, help with confirmation, meet with council and other committees and groups as time permits, pray for you, and to be open to the Spirit's leading.

Here's a bit of background about me. I was born and raised in rural southern Wisconsin, near Orfordville. The experience of growing up in the country instilled in me a love for creation and the Creator. My home church, Luther Valley, nurtured in me a love for Jesus and his teachings, and taught me the joy of gathering with friends and neighbors to sing and worship together, to visit and share meals together.

After high school I was a nursing assistant for several years before attending college. After college I did youth ministry before going to seminary and becoming ordained in 1991. I served parishes near LaCrosse and in Iowa before returning to this area in 2003. For the past nine years I served Trinity in Edgerton. Between 2007 and 2009 my parents and a brother passed away, so I am especially grateful that we were living nearby during those difficult times.

My husband Kevin grew up in Milwaukee and Rosholt, Wisconsin. He has worked with main frame computers in the insurance industry for over thirty years. Kevin loves pitching horseshoes and singing with the Badger Chordhawks (a barbershop chorus, based in Janesville). He enjoys fishing, playing chess, and watching sports. He has two sons, D.J., and Andrew, both young adults. In May, we will celebrate being happily married for ten years.

Kevin and I love living in Edgerton. We take occasional trips to visit my siblings (Minneapolis, Iowa) and his family (Steven's Point area). We like to play card games and visit with friends and family. My hobbies include paper crafts (stamping), growing flowers, feeding the birds, taking photographs of nature, and working on my family's genealogy. I have been to Norway twice with my sisters and hope to go again in 2016.

We are enjoying learning about the Cooksville community and your congregation. As a pastor I love interacting with people of all ages. I love the seasons of the Church year and everything about worship. I enjoy teaching children and youth. I especially love seeing God's Spirit at work in others as we worship, live and work together.

I am looking forward to getting acquainted with you. Please do not hesitate to call me at 751-0345.

God's peace be with you,  
Pastor Karla Brekke

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### ***Special Notice***

***In the event of heavy snow or inclement weather, church closing will be listed on Radio & Facebook, otherwise please contact a council member for confirmation of cancelation.***

# *Opportunities at Cooksville Lutheran*

## **The Tree of Life in Lent**

Many world religions use the image of the tree of life. For Christians, that tree of life is the cross. During Wednesday night worship this year we will focus on the biblical use of the tree of life. Each week a biblical passage and a hymn will cast some light on the cross of Christ as our tree of life. Five individuals from our congregation will share a meditation on this theme, a different person for each of the five Wednesdays in Lent.

Please join us at 6:00 pm for a light meal and fellowship. Three families each week will provide the meal. Worship begins at 7 pm using parts of the Evening Vespers service. Choir will meet following worship (about 7:30 pm).

Lenten worship offers a unique perspective on life as experienced through music, bible passages, and the thoughts of five individuals. Plan to attend these midweek services as we meditate on life's challenges and opportunities.

The confirmation students will meet with their mentors on Wednesday nights before our worship services.

### **Join us for Lent**

Lenten Meals Starting February 25<sup>th</sup> – March 25<sup>th</sup>

Meals at 6:00pm Service at 7:00pm

Palm Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup> 10:00am

Maundy Thursday April 2<sup>nd</sup> 7:00pm

Good Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup> 7:00pm

Easter Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> Breakfast 8-9:30 - Worship 10:00am

## **Sunday School**

Sunday School for elementary-aged children is based on the readings for worship. Students are invited to leave worship during the sermon time, returning in time for Communion with their families. All children are invited to attend, members or visitors. If you know any children who may be interested, please invite them to come to worship!

## **Adult Bible Study: Sundays at 8:45am**

Sunday adult Bible study meets weekly in the church basement, below the Sanctuary. We will be studying some favorite Old Testament stories, so please bring your Bibles.

## **Free Blood Pressure Screenings**

On the first Sunday of every month, a free blood pressure screening will be offered following worship in the Narthex. This service is offered free of charge for all who are interested. Please invite others who may benefit from these free screenings!

## **Building Reminders**

If you are the last one to leave the building after a meeting or event, please be sure to check that the doors are locked on your way out! Doors have been found unlocked a few times recently. Some doors do not always latch, so please pull them shut behind you.

Also, please keep the doors in the basement closed, between the old and new sections of the building. Keeping doors closed helps with climate control in the building. Thanks for your help!



# *Updates from Cooksville Lutheran Church*

## **Church Council News**

The Church Council met Monday night, February 16, and the newly elected members, Betty Hamilton, Sue Parsons, and Paul Haakenson, were seated. The newly elected executive committee is as follows: Anne Remley-Haines, President; Richard Krake, Vice-President; and Sue Parsons, Secretary. We would like to express our deep gratitude for the service of our members who are leaving. Ilene Axford and Curtis Brandt both served as President at various times, and Sue Parsons filled out a two year term and served as secretary for both years. May we as a Council serve toward the good of Christ's church in our hearts and minds.

## **Thank You!**

Cooksville Lutheran Church relies on volunteers to accomplish the many tasks of ministry. This month a special thank you goes out to:

- Fred Winger, for shoveling, plowing and keeping the path open.
- Nancy Krake, for coordinating volunteers to assist with worship leadership. For proofing newsletters and bulletins.
- Rhonda Wethal, Nicole Huset, Dustin Huset, Curtis Brandt and Sue Parsons, our regular Sunday School teachers for the second part of the school year.
- To all members who have donated Postage, Office Supplies and Toiletries.

## **Edgerton Outreach.org**

Edgerton Outreach extends heartfelt Thanks for your support and your gift of \$132.00 which was to benefit the food pantry. The families that they serve greatly appreciate the generosity!

## **Call Committee**

Call committee formed at Annual Meeting consisting of:

- Ilene Axford
- Curtis Brandt
- Connie Gregerson
- Sherri Haakenson
- Phil Hamilton

The Call Committee has met and scheduled their next meeting with the Synod for March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Soon after that they will send out a questionnaire to all members for your input.

## ***Opportunities in the Community***

### **Members Mark your Calendars for March 14, 2015**

The South-Central Synod of Wisconsin sponsors the annual Leadership Education and Development (LEAD) event.

This year, LEAD will again be hosted by Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mount Horeb, WI from 8:30 am – 3:30 pm. Schedule for the day begins with keynote speaker, Jennifer Prinz, followed by a break, worship, lunch and three (3) workshops sessions.

CLC Council voted to pay the registration fee for any members who wish to attend the one day event. More information and copies of the LEAD 2015 brochure will be available at our church, along with a sign-up sheet for your registration information and pre-selected workshops you plan to attend. Interest in carpooling could be noted when you sign up or by calling Sue Wollin (608 455-4374). Since Cooksville Lutheran Church will be remitting the registration fees, all attendees' registration info will also be submitted (online). First deadline is March 4! Please call Sue Wollin with any questions or pick up the brochure at church to learn more.

## Hospice Kits for Lent

As we often do during our Lenten season, we will once again be assembling kits. This year we will work on the hospice kits. These are sent to health care workers and patients' families in other parts of the world where people care for AIDS/Hospice patients suffering from end stage disease. The two gallon zip-lock bags will be provided with a list of the needed items. Feel free to bring some or all the items needed to complete these kits. For more information contact Nancy Krake.

The good news is that the completed kits will be taken to the synod assembly this year where the kits will be loaded and delivered to Global Health Ministries in Minneapolis, MN. This will save us the postage and handling!

New or gently used:

- 1 regular size bath towel
- 2 wash cloths

New items:

- 1 bath size bar of hand soap (wrapped) – any kind
- 1 toothbrush, single and in original packaging
- 1 tube of toothpaste, medium or large (or two sample size) – any kind
- 1 “pick” comb
- 1 nail clipper
- 6 Band-Aids, held together with rubber band or enclosed in small plastic bag
- 1 large jar or tube of petroleum jelly, 4 ounces or more
- 1 pair heavy duty household gloves (kitchen type), size medium
- 1 small devotional booklet such as “Christ in our Home” (does not have to be current issue)

**In addition to the kit**, funds are needed to purchase pain medications and vitamins in the country of destination. A suggested donation of \$5 with each kit will be a big help. The money will be mailed separately to Global Health Ministries, marked "Hospice Kits". This might be a way for those who are unable to get out shopping for items to participate. The money can be placed in an envelope and marked Hospice Kit. We will send the collected monies to the right destination.

***Thank you to everyone who participates in this Lenten project.***

## **March Family Winter Night**

This night of family fun and fellowship with neighbors and friends continues on March 14. Cards, board games, chess, checkers, bean bag throw and folk dance instruction are the activities which will help cure Cabin Fever!

Chris and Emily Beebe will continue teaching the wonderful folk dances of Europe. No need to have a partner, these dances are in the formation of a circle or line.

Popcorn will be served; all should bring their own beverage. The fun begins at 6:30; clean-up is at 8:30.

***ALL OF THIS HAPPENS HERE AT CHURCH, SPONSORED BY THE COOKSVILLE  
COMMUNITY CENTER.***

## **Evansville United Methodist Church Family Fun Night**

Family Fun Night from 6-8pm every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month, including a meal! Different offerings each month; reservations are appreciated but not necessary. For more info, call 882-4622 or email [admin@avansvilleumc.org](mailto:admin@avansvilleumc.org).

## **Care Closet Volunteers Needed**

Are you able to work a cash register? Fill out a bank deposit slip? Stock shelves? Carry boxes? Then the Evansville Ecumenical Care Closet needs you. We're looking for people who can work a 2 ½ to 3 hour shift and who will be part of our team.

The Care Closet serves about 160 families each month while the retail shop sells used clothing and other articles to many people each week. We're open Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and Saturday morning each week. If you're interested in learning more or volunteering, call the Care Closet at 882-4532 or stop in and talk with Dorothy. Join the team and help strengthen our community.

## **"Historic Cooksville" Book now available**

The newly published book about the village is finished and ready for purchase! Get one for yourself and for a friend at the Cooksville Country Store (open Tuesday through Sunday, 10am – 6pm). The book features color photos, maps, stories about Cooksville's past and information about the historic buildings. Suggested price is \$10.

Special thanks to Steve Ehle, Larry Reed, Lisa Imhoff and Vicki Ballweg who spent many hours working on this project. Sales of the books will benefit the Cooksville Community Center.

Like "Cooksville Community Center" on Facebook to see pictures of recent events and a picture of the book.

# EASTER PLANTS

The Altar Guild will be offering the opportunity to order spring plants to help decorate the church on Easter morning. Families purchasing the plants will be able to take them home after the service on Easter morning. Six in pots of **tulips, daffodils or lilies** may be ordered in honor or in memory of a loved one if you wish. The names of those donating and those remembered will be honored in the bulletin.

**If you would like to order:** Print your name on the sign-up sheet in the narthex or fill out the order form below and mail to the church. Indicate the number and type of plants ordered and any names of those to be honored.

The cost will be \$8.00 per lily, and \$9:00 per tulip or daffodil plant. Checks should be made out to CLC Altar Guild. The order sheet will be in the narthex from February 22nd through March 8th. Money should be placed in one of the provided envelopes and placed in the basket on the table.

*THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE ORDERED IN THE PAST.*

*The plants truly make the church a wondrous place on Easter morning.*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

#/TYPE OF PLANTS \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF/IN HONOR OF (circle one)

M/H \_\_\_\_\_

M/H \_\_\_\_\_

# ***Opportunities for Giving***

## **Financial Support**

Congregational ministry requires prayer, commitment, volunteer time, and financial resources. Cooksville Lutheran is rich in the first few assets, but we have a serious shortfall in our financial resources. Offerings in December totaled \$13,276.00. The annual budget approved by the congregation at our last annual meeting requires a monthly income of \$11,156.91. This budget provides for a minimum of expenses, so the only place to eliminate spending is in personnel. The simplest way to bring our budget into balance is through an increase in monetary offerings. Please consider supporting Cooksville Lutheran Church with an extra financial gift this month. In addition, alternative methods of support are suggested below and on the following page.

## **GoodSearch & GoodShop**

These online fundraising sites let people earn money for charity simply by doing their regular online activities! GoodSearch sends a check with proceeds raised to participating organizations once a year. Our first check arrived in November, for nearly \$20! This was for less than a year of participating in this program that was new for our congregation. Can we double the amount for next year? Be sure to change your default search engine to [goodsearch.com](http://goodsearch.com), and go through [goodshop.com](http://goodshop.com) as you do your online shopping. Thanks for your support!

## Create a Cooksville Legacy

You can continue to support the church for generations to come by naming Cooksville Lutheran in your will. Please communicate to the Foundation Committee when designating a gift, so we can be prepared to receive it. If you are interested in supporting our ministry in this way, contact the Rev. Larry Westfield ([larry.westfield@elca.org](mailto:larry.westfield@elca.org), 262-224-9574 or 877-224-9574).

## Gifts-In-Kind

The following items can be put to use immediately for ministry! Please remember the church the next time you go shopping.

- First-class stamps – current usage exceeds 100/month)
- Hand soap refills
- Toilet paper



## March Birthdays

- 
- 1 Dona Berge  
Molly Remley
  - 9 Grady Gallagher
  - 13 Martha Johnson
  - 14 Kathie Gallagher
  - 15 Christina Kuntz  
Jennifer Kuntz
  - 19 Nancy Remley
  - 24 James Parsons  
Joyce Leopold
  - 25 Brooklyn Gunn
  - 30 Anne Remley-Haines  
Tyler Schwoerer
  - 31 Randy Page  
Pastor Karla Brekke

## Members and Friends in Prayer

**Please keep these members of our extended community in your prayers:**

Rhonda Heisz (neighbor of Sue Parsons)

Winifred Brown (friend of Herb Hanson)

Ava Christianson (friend of the Wagners; cancer treatment)

Ruth Erickson (mobility concerns)

Dorothy Froemming (mobility concerns)

Anna Hanson (health and mobility concerns)

Robert Hanson (chronic health concerns)

Charles Hoff (health and mobility concerns)

Erik Jelinek (synod staff, cancer recurrence)

Jerry Julseth (health concerns)

Anne Kurey (Martha Johnson's sister, health concerns)

Joyce & Bill Leopold (Bill's recent surgery; Joyce's return home after hip surgery)

Michael LaMantia (chronic health concerns)

Robert Saunders (Martha Johnson's brother, serious health concerns)

Tom Taake (Laura Schwoerer's brother-in-law)

Sarah Alice Wealti (Patty Smith's mother)

Don Bratzke (Son of Marion Bratzke)

The Family of Helen Leibl. (Sister to Lester Julseth & Edwin Julseth)

Nancy Anderson (Pastor Rodney's Wife)

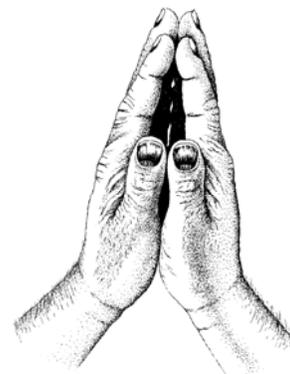
Rudy Van Fleet (friend of Kevin whose wife passed away)

John Garvan (friend of Kevin chronic health concerns)

Kari David (friend of Kevin facing cancer treatment)

**Members of the Military:** Dean Jass, Andrew Newcomb, Melissa Balbin Crandall, John Haines

*Everyone on this prayer list is remembered during our Wednesday midday prayer group. Join us in the Sanctuary Wednesdays at noon to surround these people with prayer.*



*Do you or a family member have an accomplishment that you'd like to share with the congregation? If so, submit your item to the church office.*

**Please contact the church office if you or a family member:**

- Have a change of address or phone number
- Would like to be added to the prayer list
- Are interested in church membership
- Become hospitalized or homebound
- Would like to be baptized



***Church Staff:***

Church office: 608-882-4408 (phone)

Pastor Karla Brekke 608-751-0345 [cooksvillelutheranpastor@gmail.com](mailto:cooksvillelutheranpastor@gmail.com)

Secretary, Jaye Lauer 608-754-8721 [cooksvillelutheran@litewire.net](mailto:cooksvillelutheran@litewire.net)

Worship Coordinator, Donna Haakenson: 608-882-4131

Choir Director, Jeanne Julseth: 608-882-0505

***Council members:***

Anne Remley-Haines (President), 882-9997

Richard Krake (VP), 882-5609

Sue Parsons (Secretary), 295-8796

Herb Hanson, 455-6778

Donna Gunn, 931-8402

Tom Severson, 873-6552

Sue Wollin, 455-4374

Paul Haakenson, 882-4131

Betty Hamilton, 882-5757

Tom Parsons (Treasurer – appointed), 295-1697, [tom.parsons@ymail.com](mailto:tom.parsons@ymail.com)



**Cooksville Lutheran Church is on Facebook! “Like” our page for the most up-to-date photos and details about upcoming events!**

# Word Search Lent

A S J N L K I M Y H R B U X P  
Q S M T R E J P E O E V T R F  
T I H L R E N A C L Y X O Z I  
N G S W A R P T N Y A T V Y S  
U O J I E S T E E S R J A W H  
L D I T K D P H N A P D T S S  
K N S X Q F N N I T N G K O A  
V A T X I Y D E T U A S L K C  
E U P Q U F E N S R Z N J Q R  
C R O S S Q I M B D J M C W I  
G T X G Q L L C A A A N M E F  
G N I T S A F V U Y I Y N R I  
W M N N P B Y E R R T X V N C  
T R E E O F L I F E C A V R E  
S N U B S S O R C T O H B D I

ABSTINENCE  
ASHWEDNESDAY  
CROSS  
CRUCIFIXION  
EASTER  
FASTING  
FISH  
HOLYSATURDAY

HOTCROSSBUNS  
LENT  
PALMSUNDAY  
PRAYER  
PSALMS  
REPENTANCE  
SACRIFICE  
TREEOFLIFE

## March 2015 Worship Leaders

	March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Jeanne Julseth	Nancy Krake	Anne Remley-Haines	Ilene Axford	Curtis Brandt
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Sherri Haakenson	Nancy Krake	Anne remley-Haines	Ilene Axford	Curtis Brandt
<b>Ushers</b>	Rosa Hanson	Paul & Laurie Schwoerer	Jim and Sue Parsons	Phil & Betty Hamilton	Rosa Hanson
<b>Lector</b>	Bob Haakenson	Phil & Betty Hamilton	Connie Gregerson	Laurie Schwoerer	Linda Sime
<b>Cantor</b>	Jeanne Julseth	Betty Hamilton	Anne Remley-Haines	Ilene Axford	Linda Sime
<b>Acolyte</b>	Johannes Haakenson	Mekenzie & Leah Wagner	Aleana Krake	Mekenzie & Leah Wagner	Aleana Krake
<b>Organist</b>	Paul Haakenson	Naomi Shep	Jeanne Julseth	Naomi Shep	Jeanne Julseth
<b>Lenten Services Organist</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Paul	11 <sup>th</sup> Naomi	18 <sup>th</sup> Paul	25 <sup>th</sup> Paul	
<b>Coffee Hour Host</b>	Jeanne Julseth	The Sime Family	Kathie Gunn	Rhonda & Brady	

**Altar Guild: Shared**

**Candles: Priscilla Sarow**

**New volunteers are always welcome! Contact the following people:**

**Ushers:** Rosa Hanson (873-3831)

**Worship Leaders:** Nancy Krake (882-5609 or [nkrake@att.net](mailto:nkrake@att.net))

**Sunday School:** Pastor (882-4408 or [cooksvilnelutheranpastor@gmail.com](mailto:cooksvilnelutheranpastor@gmail.com))

**Cleaning the church:** Jennifer Ehle (302-1722 or [jenniferhele1@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferhele1@gmail.com))

**Coffee Hour:** Church Office or Nancy Krake (882-5609 or [nkrake@att.net](mailto:nkrake@att.net))

*Thank you to the many volunteers who help with worship, hospitality, teaching and cleaning the church. We appreciate all you do!*

# March 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
<b>1</b> 10:00 Worship & Sunday School 11:15 Annual Meeting	<b>2</b> 9am Quilting 7pm Worship Committee	<b>3</b> 9am Tuesday Maintenance Group	<b>4</b> 11:00 Organ Music Noon Prayer Group 6:00pm Lenten Meal 7:00pm Worship	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:45 Adult Study 10:00 Worship & Sunday School	<b>9</b> 9am Quilting 7pm Altar Guild	<b>10</b> 9am Tuesday Maintenance Group 7:00pm Call Committee Meeting	<b>11</b> Noon Prayer Group 6:00pm Lenten Meal 7:00pm Worship	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8:45 Adult Study 10:00 Worship & Sunday School	<b>16</b> 9am Quilting 5:30 Foundation 7pm Congregational Council	<b>17</b> 9am Tuesday Maintenance Group	<b>18</b> Noon Prayer Group 6:00pm Lenten Meal 7:00pm Worship	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8:45 Adult Study 10:00 Worship & Sunday School	<b>23</b> 9am Quilting 6:30pm The Gathering	<b>24</b> 9am Tuesday Maintenance Group	<b>25</b> Noon Prayer Group 6:00pm Lenten Meal 7:00pm Worship	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8:45 Adult Study 10:00 Worship & Sunday School	<b>30</b> 9am Quilting	<b>31</b> 9am Tuesday Maintenance Group				

**Pastor Karla Brekke's Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays 1-4 pm; Tuesdays-Visiting  
Secretary's office hours are Thursday 1-3pm**